THE ROMAN PENTESTS.

A Picture in the Huatington Gullery,
union the solemn, sculpture-freshed fane.
Where carvings qualit abovers the dimu-

of the writer and the temper in which he has conducted his investigations. - Eds. Trab |

AURURN, N. Y. March 27, 1150. To the Editors of the New-York Tribun

Living as I do in the place which has been made a theater of those "spiritual communications" that have caused so much excitement throughout the such facts as have come within my personal keywledge. Could I consistently follow my own feelines. I should take no part before the public in the investigations which grow out of this subject : but, having been repeatedly and earnestly called upon through public prints and private letters, both from friends and strangers, in every direction, far and near, to state my opinion of the nature of these "Knockings," I do not feel at liberty longer to delay compliance with those requests. To save mysel

the labor of inditing a series of private letters, and to answer all at ource, I would avail myself of the medium of your widely circulated journal. In relation to this subject, the people in Auburn may be divided into three classes: 1. Those who are firm and undoubting believers that the "Knockings" and communications are made extended. are firm and undoubting believers that the "Knockings" and communications are made actually by departed spirits. This class is comparatively small in numbers. It is composed of persons of the various religious sects, and some who sympathize with no denomination. To the extent of my knowledge, they are an intelligent, upright and worthy class of people. I have not a doubt of their perfect sincerity; nor do I believe they would be suilty of deception, or any dishonorable means, to propagate their views. 2. Those who, having heard the "Knockings," are mable to make up their minds as to the cause. Sometimes they are strongly in clinical to believe they are made by spiritual means, and at other times they are disposed to attribute them to homan agency. 3 The great mass of the community, who totally reject the idea that spirits have anything to do with the matter.

For myself, I must, for the present at least, and until I can obtain evivence of a more satisfactory character, be placed with the latter class. Not that I am stubborn nor inhelicving, nor that I have not taken mains to investigate; I was anytons to

I am stubborn nor unbelieving, nor that I have not taken pains to investigate: I was anxious to be

taken pairs to investigate: I was anxious to be leve, nothing could give me higher satisfaction than to be able to converse with the spirits of departed friends, and commune with the great and good who have left the shores of time. I could not believe, however, without adequate evidence. It is simply for the want of this, as will be seen, that I am stall an utbeliever.

I have had three interviews with what professed to be the spirits of the departed. On the first occasion, I was invited to call for the spirit of any deceased friend. Accordingly, I requested the presence of Ma D. D. an old and intimate friend, who has been dead about ten years. I was informed by

cence of Ma. D. D. an old and intimate friend, who has been deed about true years. I was not present, but that another synth want on interest of him. As the printing the first of the printing the prin

my departed companion, but with a false. This explanation was far from being satisfa-It looked too much like a lame attempt to destro the effect of the blank failures which had take place. If an excuse of this description is to be of tained in extenuation of the false answers re-ceived from the professed spirits, then the public are utterly without means of applying any convinc-ing test of the genuineness of the pretence put

These are all the opportunities I have enjoyed of investicating this subject. The reader will readily discover why I am not a believer in the reality of "knocking spirits." To be so on such testimony would exhibit an amount of credulity for which I have no desire to claim the honor. I have not in either of my interviews been able to discover the slightest evidence that knocking was made by

the significat evidence has knocking was made by spiritual being.

But how was the knocking produced? My answer is, I do not know. I have paid but hitle attention to this point, not conceiving it as furnishing any satisfactory test. Believing it was possible for the knocking to be made by human agency, either through electricity, chirvoyance, or in some other manner. I have not attempted to make any discoveries in that direction. In fact, such investigation, may best would have been difficult as discoveries in that direction. In fact, such investigation on my part would have been difficult, as the persons under whose patronase the knocking is heard are ladics, and are quite sensitive on this point. Faithfulness to the public, however, compels me to add, that I have been repeatedly informed by these whose verseity I cannot doubt, that there have been, and still are, persons in Aubarn, who, without any provement the execution. burn, who, without any movement the eye can tect, can make all these knockings by the use of their toe joints. The only test on which I could rely with confidence, was the intelligence, the knowledge of facts, indicated by the knocking. How this test has failed in my case the reader has been informed.

this test has take informed.

That others have received communications by these knockings, which have appeared remarkable to them. I have no reason to doubt. But I cannot consistently be expected to rest my faith on their experience in a matter of this marvelous nature. In many narrations, however, of this description is which I have listened, I could discover very little that afford a cenuine and thorough test of the real.

that afford a genuine and thorough test of the reality of spiritual agency.

I still hold myselt open to conviction. Most anxious am I to be satisfied that the spirits of the departed can communicate with the living. The moment I have personal evidence on which I can rely, I shiall believe. Should this ever be afforded the public may rely as feath every living the most rely. public may rely upon a frank avowal of it from me pen, as I now have stated my want of belief the whole matter.

J. M. Austin. the whole matter.

Mysterious Knockings-How Produced.

ROCHESTER, March 30, 1850 To the Editors of The Tribune:

#### DRY GOODS

#### CARPETINGS

LOWELL MANUFACTURING CO. AUCTION SALE

PETERSON & HUMPHREY, 432 PEARL-ST

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OF EVERY DESCRIPTION AND QUALITY com
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PAPER MILL FOR SALE—On a necessfailing stream of water at all seasons of the year, competent to drive 4 large paper engines, within a few miles of Patterson, New Jersey. Terms easy. For further particulars logitize of GAUNT a DERRICKSON, mil22. 150 South-et.

m22 138 Souther.

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UFACTURERS — For sale a second criting-machine;
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The subscriber is constantly receiving from one of the first
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stivers; 100 dog law calf, so dog calf, suitable for suipender-makers. [14] 147 I JAMES COOK, 254 Pearl at

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ESTABLISHMENT.
HIS ESTABLISHMENT having been put in coorder, is now commencing its sixth senson,
udance of the purest water, and ample accommend

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ins on the bank of the canal, where it can be supposed the so that end invite the attention of New-York and Eastern lumber merchants to it. We will give a good bargant to any one who may wish to purchase. The quality averages so high that money can be made on it.

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Buchester, March 17, 1850.

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